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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JUL 19 2005  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Inventor(s): James J. deBlanc; et al.

Confirmation No.: 9663

Application No.: 10/646,512

Examiner: Ullah, Akm E.

Filing Date: Aug 23, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2874

Title: Methods and Apparatus for Selectively Coupling Optical Paths

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or  
(Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of national application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)

under 37 CFR 1.97 (c) together with either a:  
 Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or  
 a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or  
(After the CFR 1.97 (b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)

under 37 CFR 1.97 (d) together with a:  
 Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1) or (2), and  
 a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).  
(Filed after final action, a notice of allowance, on or before payment of the issue fee)

Please charge to Deposit Account 08-2025 the sum of \$0.00. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-2025 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449 - Information Disclosure Statement together with any required copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and other foreign language information listed on PTO Form 1449, as presently understood by the individual(s) designated in 37 CFR 1.56 (c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent is cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is listed on form PTO 1449 and is enclosed herewith.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. Date of Deposit: July 14, 2005  
OR

Respectfully submitted,

James J. deBlanc; et al.

By William D. Davis

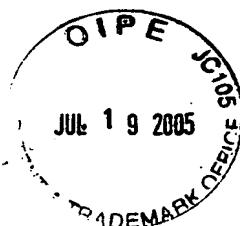
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Date: July 14, 2005

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JUL 19 2005

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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<p>Substitute for form 1449/PTO</p> <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		Application Number	10/646,512
		Filing Date	August 23, 2003
		First Named Inventor	James J. deBlanc
		Art Unit	2874
		Examiner Name	Ullah, Akm E.
		Attorney Docket Number	200206166-1
Sheet	1	of	1

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

<b>Complete if Known</b>	
Application Number	10/646,512
Filing Date	August 23, 2003
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Art Unit	2874
Examiner Name	Ullah, Akm E.
Attorney Docket Number	200206166-1

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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<sup>1</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>2</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>3</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.4. <sup>4</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>5</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>6</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>7</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: **Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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